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shadow-play of political history has blinded his eyes to the grandeur of nationality today. Were nationality not being reborn in this struggle, we might profitably long to plunge ourselves quickly in some abyss of non-existence. Because nationality has now reached heights and a virility hardly known heretofore in history, there is more hope than we need acknowledge for peace on earth.

**What Is
A Peace
Offensive?**

If we are not to exterminate the German race—and of all things certain in this war it is most certain that—that is not our object—we are, then, to continue the war up to a certain point where it will be found profitable for the peace of the world to treat with the German people for a settlement and for guarantees of peace. Whether that point follows revolution in Germany, complete military defeat of the Germans in France, invasion across the Rhine, starvation of the German people, destruction of Prussia's allies, abdication of the Kaiser, or what not, does not much matter. We cannot prevision the particular form the crisis in the domination of Germany by its present masters will take. The first-mentioned consummation seems just now extremely improbable. The second is certain to occur, although it may fall short of the eventual moment of the decisions for a future peace. The rest are more or less probable. The eventuality may be none of these or all of them.

One thing, however, to remember is, that Germany's masters will see the crisis before we do. In anticipation of such a moment their grip on affairs German will be steeled to merciless unscrupulousness. As the crisis approaches, every device will be used to procure a half-defeat, a camouflage victory for the Allies, a giving up of much surface-stuff in order better to retain the less obvious things with which the Greater Prussia may still be rebuilt. To this end nothing will happen in Germany short of outbreak and revolution, and possibly not even that, which has not been elaborately staged by the German military and political strategists. When Scheidemann speaks boldly forth to Camille Huysmans, in the Berlin *Vorwärts*, declaring that the Majority Socialists are eager to meet Allied Socialists in a conference which will include American Socialists also, this is only the old "flag of truce" game in newer guise. Were we naively to accept this as an unrestrainable evidence of the great heart of the German people speaking to the world despite the military rule that has enslaved it, we would deserve the things Boy-Ed once said of us. Feeding the Prussian peace-dove olive branches would prove far more costly than any cost of war itself. When the right time comes, German peace proposals will not attempt to say, as Von Hertling has done, that the

principles of the Allies as stated by Wilson and those of the Prussians are identical, save when they are maintained practically and applied. They will also be purged of the "musts" and the "shalls" that have characterized them to date. They will ask only for common justice, as Belgium, France, Jugoslavia, pre-Bolshevik Russia and other countries ask for it, and they will leave its determination to the common tribunal—the judgment of the true representatives of the society of the nations.

LAW-AND-ORDER PATRIOTISM

A Statement Issued July 26 by President Wilson

My Fellow Countrymen: I take the liberty of addressing you upon a subject which so vitally affects the honor of the nation and the very character and integrity of our institutions that I trust you will think me justified in speaking very plainly about it.

I allude to the mob spirit which has recently here and there very frequently shown its head amongst us, not in any single region, but in many and widely separated parts of the country. There have been many lynchings, and every one of them has been a blow at the heart of ordered law and humane justice. No man who loves America, no man who really cares for her fame and honor and character, or who is truly loyal to her institutions, can justify mob action while the courts of justice are open and the governments of the States and the nation are ready and able to do their duty. We are at this very moment fighting lawless passion. Germany has outlawed herself among the nations, because she has disregarded the sacred obligations of law, and has made lynchers of her armies. Lynchers emulate her disgraceful example. I, for my part, am anxious to see every community in America rise above that level, with pride and a fixed resolution which no man or set of men can afford to despise.

We proudly claim to be the champions of democracy. If we really are, in deed and in truth, let us see to it that we do not discredit our own. I say plainly that every American who takes part in the action of a mob or gives any sort of countenance is no true son of this great democracy, but its betrayer, and does more to discredit her by that single disloyalty to her standards of law and right than the words of her statesmen or the sacrifices of her heroic boys in the trenches can do to make suffering peoples believe her to be their savior. How shall we commend democracy to the acceptance of other peoples, if we disgrace our own by proving that it is, after all, no protection to the weak? Every mob contributes to German lies about the United States, what her most gifted liars cannot improve upon by the way of calumny. They can at least say that such things cannot happen in Germany except in times of revolution, when law is swept away!

I therefore very earnestly and solemnly beg that the governors of all the States, the law officers of every community, and, above all, the men and women of every community in the United States, all who revere America, and wish to keep her name without stain or reproach,